

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 9 of the Specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

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Data source 21 may be, for example, a pushbutton which, when operated, sends a communication as illustrated in Figure 7. The communication in Figure 7 has a data packet 11 which corresponds to the data packet shown in Figure 2. This data packet is then also used further by bus stations 1 through 6 for the communications exchanged between the bus stations according to Figure 2. At the beginning, the communication has a target block 23. This target block 23 indicates bus station 1 through 6 for which the communication is intended. The data sources always address the highest bus station they can reach. As a result of this measure, only one bus station is always induced by the data source to relay the communications, and this bus station has the highest possible position in the relay chain. Data sources 21 monitor whether the bus stations are sending communications containing data packet 11 accordingly. If there is no corresponding repetition of the communication, the bus stations attempt again to transmit their communication to a bus station. An attempt is made either immediately after the first unconfirmed transmission or only after additional unconfirmed transmissions to reach a bus station with a lower position in the sequence. Data sources 21 shown in Figure 6 will first attempt, for example, to send communications to bus station 5. If bus station 5 does not repeat the communication, either an attempt is made to reach bus station 5 again or bus station 1 or 3 is addressed. Before sending a communication, data sources 21 check on whether communications are already being sent in the communication system, because simultaneous transmission of communications leads to disturbances. If bus station data sources 21 finds find before transmission that communications are already being relayed in the communication system, it will attempt to send its communication again at a later time. When a communication is received from another bus station or a data source having a data packet, a communication having the direction vector in the second direction and the data packet of the received communication may be sent. When a communication is received from another bus station or a data source having a data packet, a first communication having the same data packet and a direction vector in a first direction may be sent, and in a following time slot a second communication having the data packet of the received communication and the direction vector in a second direction may be sent.